

Theta Lambda News

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Area 18, #203

March, 2022



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The latest edition of the Lone Star News is now online!

President's Message

Dear Theta Lambda Sisters, Spring is finally here! Of course, we are still having a few cold snaps, but the warm and sunny days are more frequent and trees are beginning to show new buds. "In like a lion and out like a lamb" is certainly true this year with winds that almost blow you over! It is hard to believe we just have 3 more meetings this year. In March we will continue 'Deeper Conversations' and have planned a program we think everyone will enjoy. April takes us to Carol TenBrook's home for our 54th Birthday Celebration. Installation of new officers and induction of two new members takes place in May.

Your Sisters want to know about YOU!! If you haven't already done so, it is time to complete your Autobiographical Sketch and send it to me. A copy is included in the Newsletter so you can print and complete or simply type in your answers and email the saved copy to me. Or you can click here [Theta Lambda - Autobiographical Sketch](#) and submit it. Thanks to those of you who have already provided your information.

As we wrap up the year, we will have a spring Stuff a Duffel for Parks Youth Ranch as our community project. Look for a Sign Up Genius email soon. This time I would like us to do a few more duffel bags with less in them. We will still include necessities and fun items but including a little less will allow us to impact more students without increasing cost. As always, please participate at the level you feel comfortable with.

I hope everyone has been collecting their 'Change for Africa' over the past several months. At our April meeting, we will collect your donations for Our Lady of Grace School in Kisumu, Kenya. Before the year is out, we will have Jane give us an update on all that is happening at this amazing school.

Take a little time to enjoy the fresh area and signs of spring all around! Looking forward to seeing everyone in March.

Sally Kubiak

Come join us for Theta Lambda's March meeting!

Home: Jayati Sengupta
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84054131698?pwd=HM2SElxaFR3M1dRcWEzbn9KZmh3QT09>

Hostesses: Jayati Sengupta, Stacy Frenchwood
 When: Monday, March 21
 Inspiration: Laura Downes
 Music: Pam Baker

Program ~ "Deeper Conversations ~ Understanding Each Other in Today's World"



TREASURER'S REPORT

MARCH

2022

Checking Balance Reported in **Febru-ary** **\$2,131.30**

Receipts **\$0.17**

Jan.-Feb. Bank Dividends **\$0.17**

Disbursements **(\$221.26)**

Plant - December Speaker **\$31.80**

Newsletter Post-
age **\$31.46**

State & International Dona-
tions **\$158.00**

Current Checking Account Balance **\$1,910.21**

Current Savings Account Balance **\$560.94**

Current CD Balance **\$1,641.06**

Total Assets of Chapter **\$4,112.21**

WHAT DELTA KAPPA GAMMA MEANS TO ME

Sandra MacConnell

One afternoon, in the spring of 1972, I was approached in my first grade classroom by two fellow teachers, Frances Gilliland and Margaret Williams (charter members of Theta Lambda Chapter), who presented me with an invitation to become a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. I had no idea what Delta Kappa Gamma was, but as I opened the envelope to reveal a gold crest on the very formal invitation, I couldn't help but feel that this was something very important that could make a difference in my life. As I opened the official looking card, the first thing that caught my eye was the wording "Honor Society for Women Educators". Frances and Margaret began to explain that membership in Delta Kappa Gamma was by invitation only and was extended to women teachers with at least five years of experience who were outstanding in their field of education. They went on to explain that it was an honor to be selected to join Delta Kappa Gamma because my peers had recognized that I had the qualities necessary for membership. There was that word again – honor.

I was then told that recommendation for membership had to come from three Delta Kappa Gamma members, the third coming from my principal at Montgomery Elementary in Houston, Elizabeth Bates Nisbet, who was a member of another DKG chapter. (Side note – Mrs. Nisbet was formerly the principal of Mamie Sue Bastian Elementary School in Houston, which was named after one of the founders of Delta Kappa Gamma).

Vision Statement: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



I, of course, accepted the invitation (in writing, because everything back then was very formal), and I was “initiated” into Delta Kappa Gamma in March of 1972 with seven other deserving women educators. At the initiation ceremony, we were escorted into a dimly lit room with the Delta Kappa Gamma regalia and candles precisely placed on a table and the Delta Kappa Gamma song, being sung by a chorus of female voices, playing on a record player in the background. I have to say that when I heard the song, which sounded more like a funeral dirge to my young self, I wondered what in the world I was signing up for. However, I was welcomed with open arms and became the youngest member of a group of 35 amazingly talented and dedicated women.

At the time of my initiation, I was expecting my first child, who was not due until the following October. In those days, if you were pregnant and “showing” you could not teach in a classroom, so I took a leave of absence from teaching and Delta Kappa Gamma became my way of staying connected to the world of education. (That leave of absence ended up lasting for the next seventeen years as I became a stay-at-home mom to raise my two children and then worked with my husband in our office supply business, all the while staying up on educational trends through my membership in DKG). I returned to the classroom in Fort Bend ISD in 1989 feeling as though I had never left the field of education. At times, in meetings and discussions with co-workers, I would mention someone who worked in another school or district, and I would be asked “how do you know all these people?”. The answer was simple – through my membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

Since the era of my joining Delta Kappa Gamma was long before internet and email capabilities, communication between members was held via telephone, so I was assigned to the telephone committee by newly elected Chapter President, Margie Scott. What better way to get to know this new group of friends! The next biennium, I was asked by my friend, neighbor, and new Theta Lambda President, Karen Duke, to be editor of the chapter newsletter. Thus, began the Theta Lambda News – typed on my old SCM typewriter, copied at my husband’s office, and distributed by U.S. mail.

At the end of the biennium, I was honored to be the first recipient of the Theta Lambda Achievement Award because of my contribution to the chapter as the first newsletter editor. After serving as Recording Secretary for President Margaret Williams, I was honored to be asked to serve as Chapter President for the 1978-1980 biennium.

This began a period of several years attending state conventions, which introduced me to a whole new DKG world and the privilege of being a member of something so large. However, I didn’t realize how large until I attended the Golden Anniversary International Convention of Delta Kappa Gamma in Dallas in 1979, with the theme being “We Have Defined Our Purpose; Let Us Shape Our Destiny”.

I remember well, walking in a procession of Chapter, State, and International Presidents and dignitaries and thinking how honored I was to be attending and being a part of something so special.

Throughout the years, sometimes life circumstances have gotten in the way, and I have had to step back a little from “active duty”. However, I have never once entertained the idea of leaving the “fold”. After all, if some of my fellow teachers recognized something in me to recommend me for membership in DKG, didn’t I owe it to them to stay a loyal member and pay it forward by recommending others for membership?

I was never so moved or felt more supported as when nearly every Theta Lambda member, sitting together as a group, attended my husband’s memorial service five years ago. Delta Kappa Gamma has made a difference in my life, both personally and professionally.

I have never aspired to serve beyond the chapter level, except for one biennium serving on the State Communications Committee. Being a long-time member of Theta Lambda, I feel I can best serve my chapter through my work on the Archives, Yearbook, Chapter Rules and Finance committees – publishing the yearbook since 2010 and serving as chapter treasurer in 1994-1996 and 2004 to present.

Over the past 50 years, as a member of Theta Lambda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, I have crossed paths with 100+ women teachers who have become members of our chapter. Most have moved on, many have been members for a long time, and some for a short while. It has been a privilege and an honor to call each of you my colleague, my friend, and my “sister”.



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Membership dues for 2022-2023 will be accepted starting now.

All dues/fees need to be paid by the end of May.

Dues remain the same....

Active Members \$75.00

Reserve Members \$28.00

Induction Fee for New Members \$10.00

Make checks payable to Theta Lambda – DKG

And send to....

**Sandra MacConnell
611 Chevy Chase Circle
Sugar Land, TX 77478**

(Or bring to the March, April, or May Meeting)

If you need to arrange for payment in installments, please contact the Chapter Treasurer.

sandra@glenngraphics.com

713-829-7303 (cell)



Theta Lambda Monthly Meeting Agenda

February 28, 2022

Members present: Miriam Watson, Sandra MacConnell, Cheri Flick, Bethanne Moscow, Rachel Delafuente, Juliane Twelde, Stacy Frenchwood, Jane Meyer, Nancy Dobbs, Robin DeLaRosa, Michelle Glick, Laura Downes, Catherine Hague, Alisha Procter, Carol Tenbrook, Michele Croft, Sally Kubiak

Members Attending through Zoom – Linsey Bove, Carol Ann Shipp, Lillie Beth Wilson

Inspiration – Catherine Hague (Needing Hope especially with everything that is going on in the Ukraine)

“You may say I am a dreamer but am not the only one. I hope someday you’ll join us. And the world will live as one.” Imagine by John Lennon

“Hope is a thing with feathers

that perches in the soul

And sings the tune without the words

And never stops at all.” Emily Dickinson

Old Business

Approve December Minutes – Minutes stand as is as there were no corrections.

Approve December Financial Report - Financial statement stands as is as there were no corrections.

Autobiographical Sketch Update – The form was passed out and information was given regarding how to complete it online. Lillie Beth and Carol Tenbrook sent their autobiographical sketches. Please complete yours.

New Business

Slate for New Officers for 2022-2024 Biennium

Lilli Beth Wilson presented slate:

President – Alisha Proctor

1st VP – Catherine Hague

2nd VP – Linsey Bove

Secretary – Robin DeLaRosa

Vote on slate will be held in March.



Vote on New Members Applicants

New members were presented by their sponsors, Stacy Frenchwood (Rachel Delafuente) and Alisha Procter (Bethanne Moscov)

Rachel Delafuente – Rachel is a Human Resources Supervisor in Alief who trains and oversees the people that handle all of the HR paperwork. She has two children, continually volunteers for the district with her family and is a joy to be around.

Bethanne Moscov - Bethanne is a professor at UT School of Public Health. She previously had a job with the Department of the State. She has traveled extensively and speaks many languages including French and Arabic. She is working on her PhD.

Jane Meyer made the motion to accept both members in the Theta Lambda chapter of DKG. Nancy Dobbs seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Birthday Dinner – We agree to again have it catered by George's Pastaria at Carol's House.

Other Business

Mike Williams was a recruiter for a local district and is friends with Lillie Beth and Tom. He got Covid at the beginning of the pandemic and his lungs were severely damaged. They moved to Phoenix since he was accepted for the transplant program. He was approved twelve weeks ago for a transplant. He was called a week ago and has since received a lung transplant. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Program - Deeper Conversations About Understanding Each Other in Today's World After an introduction, a video 'Understanding My Privilege' with Sue Borrego was shared followed by a discussion.



DID YOU KNOW?

Fun Facts About Our Fellow Sisters

Did you know that Carol TenBrook has lived in 5 states as well as France and has visited 10 countries? She has taught in public and private schools after going back to college once her children were in school. Graduating at the age of 44, she taught 23 years at the elementary, middle, and high school level with a focus on math and science in many of her positions.

We all know she is an amazing artist but did you know she enjoys quilting, too? In addition to her artistic pursuits, she has been a Houston Museum of Natural Science docent, Girl Scout Leader, and served on the Religious Education Board at St. Laurence Catholic Church.

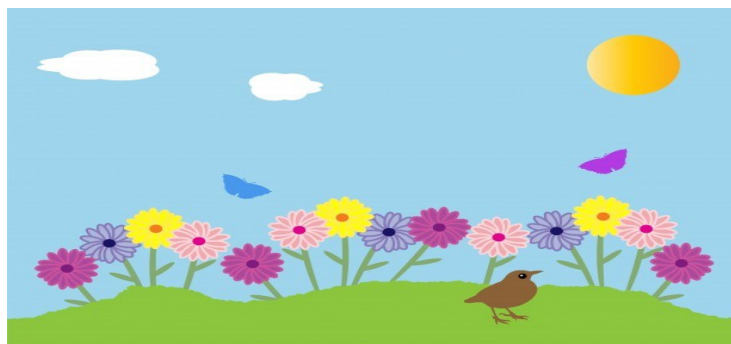
Carol is definitely a 'Jack of all trades' as she has been a cashier, waitress, file clerk, office manager, and accounts payable and billing clerk among other things.

The oldest of 5 children and the mother of 4 children, Carol will be married 45 years this coming summer. She is the proud grandmother of 7 grandchildren.

As a member of Theta Lambda since 2004, Carol has served President, 1st Vice President, and Recording Secretary and has also served as the Newsletter editor and as Webmaster.

Finally, did you know that Carol is leaving the classroom at the end of this school year? While not officially retiring, she will be helping out at her school, Gateway Academy, joining the administrative/office staff parttime.

We are glad to call Carol a Theta Lambda sister!





Deeper Conversations – Part 2

We will be using this protocol to facilitate the conversation at the March meeting. That night you will have a list to read over and then choose what you would like to discuss in your group. While we will go over the protocol that night, it might be beneficial if you read through this before the meeting.

The Final Word

Adapted by Jennifer Fischer-Mueller and Gene Thompson-Grove.

Purpose

The purpose of this protocol is to give each person in the group an opportunity to have their ideas, understandings, and perspective enhanced by hearing from others. With this protocol, the group can explore an article, clarify their thinking, and have their assumptions and beliefs questioned in order to gain a deeper understanding of the issue.

Time

For each round, allow about 8 minutes (circles of 5 participants: presenter 3 minutes, response 1 minute each for 4 people, final word for presenter 1 minute). Total time is about 40 minutes for a group of 5 (32 minutes for a group of 4, 48 minutes for a group of 6).

Roles

Facilitator/time-keeper (who also participates); participants

Facilitation

- Have participants identify one most significant idea from the text (underlined or highlighted ahead of time)
- Stick to the time limits
- Avoid dialogue
- Have equal sized circles so all small groups finish at approximately the same time

Process

1. Sit in a circle and identify a facilitator/time-keeper.
2. Each person needs to have one most significant idea from the text underlined or highlighted in the article. It is often helpful to identify a back-up quote as well.
3. The first person begins by reading what struck them the most from the article. Have this person refer to where the quote is in the text - one thought or quote only. Then, in less than 3 minutes, this person describes why that quote struck them. For example, why do they agree/disagree with the quote? What questions do they have about that quote? What issues does it raise for them? What do they now wonder about in relation to that quote?



4. Continuing around the circle, each person briefly responds to that quote and what the presenter said, in less than a minute. The purpose of the response is:

- To expand on the presenter's thinking about the quote and the issues raised for them by the quote
- To provide a different look at the quote
- To clarify the presenter's thinking about the quote
- To question the presenter's assumptions about the quote and the issues raised (although at this time there is no response from the presenter)

5. After going around the circle with each person having responded for less than one minute, the person that began has the "final word." In no more than one minute the presenter responds to what has been said. Now what are they thinking? What is their reaction to what they have heard?

6. The next person in the circle then begins by sharing what struck them the most from the text. Proceed around the circle, responding to this next presenter's quote in the same way as the first presenter's. This process continues until each person has had a round with their quote.

7. End by debriefing the process in your small group.

Protocols are most powerful and effective when used within an ongoing professional learning community and facilitated by a skilled facilitator. To learn more about professional learning communities and seminars for facilitation, please visit the School Reform Initiative website at www.schoolreforminitiative.org.



Fundraising Reminders

That's My Pan

That's My Pan has some items back in stock so you may want to check out the website and consider ordering. As soon as 10 items are ordered (not 10 separate orders but just 10 items) I can place the order which usually arrives pretty quickly.

thatsmypan.biz/DKGThetaLambda

Kroger

Kroger shoppers can earn money for Theta Lamba just by shopping!

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account search for Theta Lambda either by name or WV575 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

March Birthdays

Sally Kubiak—March 17

Miriam Watson—March 27

Linsey Bove—March 28



Theta Lambda Autobiographical Sketch

Name / Nickname _____

Places lived _____

Places visited _____

Degrees _____

School districts/private schools worked in _____

Positions held in education/grades taught _____

Non-education jobs _____

Community Involvement (past/current) _____

Professional Honors and Awards _____

Talents and Hobbies _____

Family (share whatever you would like) _____

DKG (Year joined; Roles in chapter; Roles in State/International) _____

Other things you want to share _____

Dates to Remember

March, 2022

March 1st – TSO Scholarship and Spring Mini-Grant applications due

March 1st – Aspiring Education applications due

March 15th – List of Chapter Officers to TSO

March 21st - Chapter Meeting

April, 2022

April 1st – ASTEF Project applications due

April 1st – Annie Program Extravaganza Submission due

April 1st – TSO Media and Member in Print Award nominations due

April 25th - Chapter Birthday Celebration

May, 2022

May 1st – Membership Snapshot taken

May 1st – TSO Five Star Newsletter award due

May 11 – DKG Founders' Day

May 16th - Chapter Meeting

June, 2022

June 15th - 18th – TSO Convention, Lubbock

June 20th – Membership dues submission

July, 2022

July 12th-16th – DKG International Convention, New Orleans

ZOOM INFORMATION FOR EACH MEETING

March 21, 2022
April 25, 2022
May 16, 2022
September 19, 2022
October 17, 2022

Topic: Delta Kappa Gamma - Theta Lambda Meeting
Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84054131698?pwd=aHM2SElxaFR3M1dRcWEzbn9KZmh3QT09>

Meeting ID: 840 5413 1698

Passcode: 873121

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,84054131698#,,,,*873121# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,84054131698#,,,,*873121# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 840 5413 1698

Passcode: 873121

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdByUKC1ss>

THANK YOU, Stacy, for arranging our Zoom meetings.